

The Fenelon Falls Gazette.

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FENELON FALLS, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1912.

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R. M. Hamilton, Mgr. Fenelon Falls Branch

Plain Talk to Workingmen.

No matter how insignificant the workingman may appear to be, as an individual, the fact remains that the workingman constitutes the only useful part of human society.

It is the working class alone that makes any form of human society possible, because it is solely by labor that the resources of the earth are converted to human use.

It is the working class that produces all wealth, as the term is now used in the world of commerce and exchange.

It is the working class that produces the vast store of commodities with which the world's markets are continually supplied.

It is the very presence of a working class that gives even to land and the earth's resources an exchange value.

All of the boasted wealth of the world that is expressed in money terms is the product of labor, and of labor alone.

In spite of all this, the working class is practically without wealth.

Though the working class build all human habitations, nearly all its members are either homeless or merely tenants at the mercy of landlords.

Though the workers produce all the clothing, they are, as a rule, either shabbily or cheaply clad.

Though they produce the food of the world, they at no time have more than a very limited quantity of it in their possession as their own.

Even during the best of times their holding upon even the actual necessities of life, or the means of obtaining them, hangs on the merest thread.

Time and again do these workers, driven by sheer desperation, revolt against the miserable conditions resulting from low wages and unsteady employment, only to find themselves victims of the grossest brutality at the hands of the police and the military machinery of the capitalist class.

And what sort of a creation is this capitalist class that wields such crushing power against the workers if they dare to revolt against conditions that are well nigh intolerable?

The entire expense of its establishment and the cost of all its pomp, power and magnificence is drained from the toil and sweat of the working class, without conscience, scruple or payment.—Western Clarion.

What We Guarantee.

The question is often asked, "What guarantee can you give that Socialists will not, when elected to office, betray their trust?" The history of the elected representatives of the various class interests in human society shows conclusively that no cases of such betrayal have as yet occurred. It is particu-

larly noticeable that the representatives of a material or class interest always stand true to such interest. Labor is not betrayed after election, but is deceived before it. This arises from the fact that the beneficiaries of the present system are altogether too few in number to elect their representative, and are, therefore, compelled to obtain votes by false pretences. If workingmen will exercise due care in informing themselves as to the class interests of Capital as well as the class interests of Labor, so as to avoid being deceived prior to election, they may rest easy as to being betrayed afterwards. The class interests of labor cannot be protected by those who are elected to represent the class interests of capital. Should they attempt to do so they would be traitors, and their lives not worth a copper. Should the elected representatives of the class interests of labor attempt to serve the class interests of capital, the same rule would hold good. However, it is impossible to cross a bridge before we reach it.

The true Socialist votes, not for any candidate, but for Socialism. When there is a candidate in the field whose name spells Socialism, the Socialist marks his cross against it. If there is no such candidate, he marks "Socialism" on his ballot or refrains altogether from voting. He will not vote for what he does not want.—Ibid.

Funny, Isn't It?

People who work are supposed to be poor. That is what everybody thinks and believes. They have been taught to believe that he who bakes the bread, builds the houses, weaves the broadcloth, should be hungry homeless and ragged.

How anyone can believe that it is right for parasites to live off the cream of the land, while the workers who produce should themselves feel the pangs of hunger, passes my understanding.

When we meet an ill-dressed man on the street, we immediately surmise the fact that he is a workingman. Why? Because he is seedy and hungry-looking. Workers are supposed to be hungry.

Funny, isn't it?

The workers themselves cannot realize the fact that they are entitled to fare as good as, if not better than, their exploiters receive. They cannot realize that, being the producers of wealth, they should be the receivers. I beg pardon. I should not have said "cannot," for they are slowly—very, very slowly—beginning to realize that they are being robbed. Nevertheless it is a huge joke. Whether to laugh or weep depends on the point of view.—Emmanuel Julius.

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M.W. Reive, Manager